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13 JAN 1948

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CONFIDENTIAL

ARMY, DOS, DIA reviews

GENERAL

1. Communists believed planning "purge" of WFTU--Important trade union leaders in Paris have expressed to US Embassy Paris the conviction that the Kremlin has decided to bring the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) completely under its control even at the cost of a split with the British Trades Union Congress and the CIO. These leaders believe that instructions have been given to Soviet and Communist leaders of the WFTU to "purge" it of non-Communist elements and to turn it into an organization similar to the Third International.

(CIA Comment: Soviet tactics at the November 1947 meeting of the WFTU Executive Bureau did not support these views but rather a desire to postpone action on any issue which might break up the WFTU.)

Army/DOS/DIA

Declassification/Release

2. US views on sale of US military equipment to Italy--The Department of State has informed US Embassy Rome that no legal authority is available for the transfer of any significant quantities of US military equipment to the Italian armed forces without reimbursement by Italy of the cost and handling charges. Accordingly, the Embassy is instructed to explain to De Gasperi the obstacles involved and to ascertain from the Italian Government what equipment is necessary and whether the Government will agree to pay for it.

EUROPE

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CONFIDENTIAL

NEAR EAST-AFRICA

- 4. SAUDIA ARABIA: ARAMCO official discouraged about pipel ine-US Minister Childs transmits the opinion of Vice President Duce of the Arabian-American Oil Company that, so long as the Palestine situation remains unstabilized, it is doubtful whether the Arab governments would be able to protect the proposed Saudi Arabian-Lebanon pipeline, even if Syria finally author the passage of the line through its territory. As a solution to the Palestine situation Duce proposes that the US urge the Zionists to come to terms with the Arabs on the grounds that the alternative would be armed intervention and the US has in intention of so intervening.
- 5. INDIA: Pakistan's military position considered weak-The US Military Attache in Kanachi believes that Pakistan cannot support a war in any form because of limited military supplies and further points out that the dominion is admittedly unsuccessful in preventing looting and raiding by the armed tribesment in the West Punjab area adjacent to India. The MA adds that Pakistan leaders not only welcome UN intervention in the Bashmir dispute but also hope that the UN will recommend the use of neutral troops in maintaining order along the border and in Kashmir.

FAR EAST

6. INDONESIA: Dutch accept US proposals—The US delegation to the GOC reports that the Netherlands Government has accepted the text of the US delegation's proposals and that the Indonesian Republic will be urged to accept also. The US delegation believes that the I e-public will probably sign a truce agreement on 14 or 15 January. The Netherlands Foreign Office has informed US Enchassy

The Netherlands Foreign Office has imormed US Endrassy. The Hague that Dutch acceptance of the US proposals has been difficult to obtain, and has expressed the hope that a cease direagreement will be duly implemented.

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CONTIDERTIAL

(CIA Comment: The Republic has been unwilling to stipe a truce agreement until some political settlement could be reached with the Netherlands. The grounds for such a settlement exist in the US proposals. However, the realization of GOC objectives will depend upon the Republic's success it controlling its forces and upon Dutch willingness to regard these Republican efforts as sincere.)